GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:640
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2000
FOOD DEVELOPMENT FUND
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Development Fund is non-starter;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether performance of this sector is very poor in food production as compared to other developed countries;

(d) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the growth rate of this sector?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.640 TO BE ANSWERED ON TH 10th May, 2000 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a) & (b) An idea of creation of a Food Processing Development Fund wasmooted with a view to facilitate flow of credit in a focussed manner. The creation of the Fund envisages financial issues of very complex nature, necessitating discussions with financial institutions, Banks, etc. The discussions are under way to consider all aspects of this issue.

(c) & (d) The performance of agriculture sector in food production has been satisfactory.

(e) A regionally differentiated strategy based on agro-climatic regional planning, which takes into account agronomic, climatic and environmental conditions, has been adopted to realise the full potential of growth in every region and accelerate the growth rate of agriculture sector.